Christopher Lent 12 Randazzo Road Columbia, CT 06237

March 3, 2021

Connecticut General Assembly State Capitol Hartford, CT 06106

Subject: Raised H.B. No. 6355

Dear State Senators and State Representatives of the Joint Judiciary Committee,

The purpose of this letter is to provide testimony in opposition of Raised H.B. No. 6355, AN ACT CONCERNING RISK PROTECTION ORDERS OR WARRANTS. Connecticut already has "Red Flag" laws that provide additional protections to those persons that have legitimate concerns for their safety in the event they sincerely believe an imminent threat exists.

The aforementioned Bill fails to provide adequate and reasonable safeguards to protect a defendant from fraudulent accusations, encroaches on the fundamental principle that the accused does not have the burden to prove their innocence, and places a larger thumb on the scales of justice.

I respectfully request that the Joint Judiciary Committee rejects Raised H.B. No. 6355, as Connecticut already provides additional protections to those persons with legitimate concerns for their safety under the existing "Red Flag" laws.

Sincerely,

**Christopher Lent**